



Latrobe Valley Naturalist

July - Aug 2017

Issue No. 591

Office bearers

President: David Stickney
Secretary: Wendy Savage
Treasurer: David Mules
Publicity Officer: Alix Williams
Magazine editor: Tamara Leitch
Conservation Coordinator: Jackie Tims
Archivist: Marja Bouman
Webmaster: John Sunderland

Contact

The Secretary
Latrobe Valley Field
Naturalists Club Inc.
P.O. Box 1205
Morwell VIC 3840
info@fieldnats.org
0428 422 461

Website

lvfieldnats.org

General meetings

Held at 7:30 pm on the
fourth Friday of each month
at the Newborough Uniting
Church, Old Sale Road
Newborough VIC 3825



This male Eastern Spinebill was photographed by David Stickney at Nyerimilang Heritage Park during the Club's 2017 Summer Camp.

Upcoming events

July general meeting: Friday 28 July – Winter Members' Night

Excursion: Saturday 29 July – Moe-Yallourn Rail Trail. Meet 10am Moe Botanic Gardens off Dinwoodie Drive.

Botany Group: Saturday 5 August – Holey Plains SP. Carpool 9.30am at Amigo Mexican Restaurant carpark in Traralgon.

Bird Group: Tuesday 8 August – Bunyip SP. Meet by 9.30am in the Service Centre carpark on the westbound side of the highway at Longwarry.

Bird Group: Thursday 17 August – EA Wetland survey. Meet by 9.30am at the Morwell Bridge Gate. Please confirm attendance with Alix beforehand.

August general meeting: Friday 25 August

New Holland Mouse at Wilsons Promontory – Phoebe Burns

Excursion: Saturday 26 August – Meet 10am Providence Ponds carpark, 18km E of Stratford on RHS, or 9.15am at Amigo Mexican Restaurant in T'gon to carpool.

Botany Group: Saturday 2 Sept – Wonthaggi Heathlands with Terri Allen.

Bird Group: Tuesday 5 Sept – Australian Paper Mill. Plan to arrive before 9.15am and park in 1st part of carpark, towards the back. Short induction will follow, then carpooling to "birding" entry. There will be no option to leave early.

SEANA Autumn Camp 2017

It is a pleasure to report, in my role as Working Party convenor, that the SEANA Autumn 2017 Camp held over the extended weekend of Friday 17th - Monday 20th March was a great success. Hosted jointly by the Sale & District FNC and our club, 121 naturalists registered, making it one of the largest SEANA gatherings in recent years. They were drawn from 15 member clubs from as far away as Portland, Donald and Albury-Wodonga. The camp base was The Laurels function centre at Sale Racecourse, which proved to be an excellent, attractive venue with plenty of space for dinners, socialising, evening talks and displays.



Naturalists at the Laurels Function Centre
(Photo: Phil Rayment)

Evening talks

Sale club member and talented nature photographer Ron Greer gave a presentation 'Birds of the local area' on Friday evening. His first set of photos was taken as recently as five days earlier, in Holey Plains State Park, and included a Collared Sparrow-hawk whose arrival disturbed the fun of various honeyeaters, Eastern Yellow Robins and Spotted Pardalotes. Superb photos in various wetland locations around Sale followed. Ron enlivened his talk with some great anecdotes, including an unusual encounter between a Freckled Duck and a Eurasian Coot on Lake Guyatt back in 2012. The coot waddled past the duck, which appeared to take offence! Whatever the duck said, the coot didn't take kindly and turned to the approaching duck. Ron's brilliant photo sequence suggested that the coot won the ensuing altercation!

Our speaker on Saturday evening was Dr Kate Charlton-Robb, from Museum Victoria, on the subject of the Burrnunan Dolphin, only recently classified as a distinct bottlenose dolphin species. Kate was the lead author of the scientific paper published in 2011 which formalised its naming as *Tursiops australis* and provided its description. She explained that its delineation as a new species was based on consideration of its skull size, external characteristics and DNA. *T. australis* has been sighted off Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia, with only approximately 60 counted in the Gippsland Lakes area. Its long-term survival is thus of great concern.

Sunday night's speaker, Don Love, also gave a talk 'Citizen science at Beware Reef' with a focus on the Gippsland region. This reef, a Marine Sanctuary, lies 5 km to the south-east of Cape Conran and encompasses a series of underwater granite pinnacles, with a small section at its northern extremity rising above sea level. Don is an experienced diver who, as a member of Friends of Beware Reef, has been studying and photographing its marine life for many years. To date approximately 100 fish species, 4 marine mammals, 40 sponges and more than 180 other invertebrates have been listed for the sanctuary. Don's well-illustrated presentation vividly conveyed the challenges of scientific survey work in such underwater environments.

Displays

A very popular display was the set of the 34 awarded exhibits from our recent nature photography competition, open to members of the two host clubs. On Friday evening, the two medallions for "Best in Show" and "People's Choice" were presented: the former medallion went to Ron Greer for his photo of a male White-fronted Chat and the latter to David Stickney for his 'charismatic megafauna' shot of a yawning Koala. Ken Harris had prepared a Power Point show of the 96 leading images, but including at least one photo from each entrant, and this was screened as a loop on Sunday evening before and during dinner.

We thank Sally Court for displaying a large set of 3D natural world images created by her father Ron Court and Arthur Ewen, both late members of the LVFNC.

A range of books and brochures on display included the attractive booklet 'Birds of the Sale Common Wetlands' authored by Sale club members Ron Greer and Rosalind Steel and launched on Friday evening. It has been published with financial contributions from SEANA, FNCV and Gippsland Water.

Excursions

A highly diverse range of 22 excursions had been programmed from Friday afternoon (at Dutson Downs environmental farm) through to Monday morning (at Maffra, the Knob Reserve in Stratford, and at the Heyfield Wetlands), concluding with lunch together at Heyfield.

A camp highlight was a guided cruise on the Gippsland Lakes on Sunday as part of a bus-based excursion which also visited a Grevillea Garden at Nicholson. In cruising between Lakes Entrance and Metung via Reeve Channel, we were rewarded with close-range sightings of bottlenose dolphins and seals near the Entrance and with a diversity of birdlife.



Peach Flat Community Wetland (Photo: Phil Rayment)

Other sites visited across Saturday and Sunday included a number of wetlands and reserves in and around Sale, and to the north the Avon Mt Hedrick Wilderness Area, the Mitchell River NP, Licola and the Wellington River valley, and Peach Flat Community Wetland near Briagolong. Holey Plains SP was visited, being the site of some rare and interesting plants, as were saltmarsh areas on the shores of Lake Reeve near Golden Beach.

Mothing evenings

Ken Harris conducted moth surveys each evening and welcomed those interested to join him following the evening talks. The sites included Sale Common on Friday night, the Herb Guyatt Reserve on Saturday and Holey Plains State Park on Sunday, the latter being particularly rewarding for Ken with the sighting of a lacewing of special interest.

In concluding this report, my grateful thanks go to the members of the organising Working Party (five from each club) who worked well as a team, to all the excursion leaders and facilitators, and to all the other helpers whose efforts made for a successful event.

Phil Rayment

Report on Bird Challenge Count 2016

The Bird Challenge Count was held over Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th December, 2016.

Forty-five participants, in six groups, covered 13 sites in the Latrobe Valley region. Results from each group were collated and sent to Birdlife Australia. The 2016 total was 109 species and 3,597 birds.

Most of the Latrobe area now has Bird Challenge Count records from 1998 to 2016. In the early years, about 10 people in two groups somehow covered about eight sites in ONE hectic day! It is much better now as we have more people involved and can take our time to enjoy the birds that we see.

Prior to the 2016 count, it had been a wet spring so there was plenty of water around. There were not the usual concentrations of large numbers of waterbirds. Fewer ducks (eg. 0 Pink-eared Ducks), grebes and Sharp-tailed Sandpipers, with the exception of an increase in Chestnut Teal. Reductions in ibis, small raptors, and Little Ravens also occurred, but there were increases in Laughing Kookaburras, most honeyeaters and thornbills.

Thanks to all the leaders, data recorders and participants. People had an interesting and enjoyable time. Hopefully you have already put the dates of *December 1- 3, 2017* in your diary and can join in for some of that time. In early October the planning starts and we will be asking for participants.

Alix Williams

CLUB SUMMER CAMP 2017 – Part 2

Lonely Bay – Saturday afternoon

After waiting for cars to gather at the junction of Princes Highway and Burnt Bridge Road, the convoy headed towards Blackfellow Arm Track, passing tall stands of *Eucalyptus tricarpa* with the occasional understorey Prickly Geebung *Persoonia juniperina* with its striking yellow tubular flowers, and finally stopping at the picnic ground at the northern end of Lonely Bay. The group divided into two, some members choosing to explore the Fern Loop walk, others walking along the track to the creek, which did in fact join up with the Fern Loop.

The walk to the creek delighted us with various examples of twiners and climbers, so I will concentrate on those. Once home, I did find some of the plants difficult to identify, as they looked very similar. Three plants found along the track, scrambling in profusion up trees and over bushes, had similar leaves in opposite pairs along the stem with a single midrib vein, only varying in length and slightly in shape...Bearded Tylophora *Tylophora barbata*, Milk vine *Marsdenia rostrata* and Sweet Morinda *Morinda jasminoides* or *Gynochthodes jasminoides*. Bearded Tylophora belongs to the hoya family and apparently has the same beautiful, scented flowers, but we weren't fortunate enough to



Milk Vine (Photo: Baiba Stevens)

see any. Its leaves are glabrous, as are the others, but the edges of the leaves are not wavy. Milk Vine and Sweet Morinda both have very similar leaves, being darker green above and a lighter green below, with wavy edges. Looking more closely, the Milk Vine leaves are slightly recurved and end in an abrupt point. They can also be nearly twice as long, up to 15 cm, compared to the leaves of Sweet Morinda, which only reach up to 9 cm. Unfortunately, using this characteristic has its flaws as everyone knows, as the leaves on the same

plant can vary greatly!! Sweet Morinda leaves have an interesting structure that I had not met before. At the forks of the leaf veins are structures called domatia, which in this plant take the form of little hooded pits or foveolae and can be seen on both surfaces of the leaf. I can't be certain that I saw both the Milk Vine and the Sweet Morinda. All three of these plants are confined to the east of the Gippsland Lakes, though Milk Vine can also be found in the Tarra Valley.

The Wombat Berry *Eustrephus latifolius* and Scrambling Lily *Geitonoplesium cymosum* also have similar characteristics, but belong to different families. Both have leaves of similar length (~ 10cm) that are parallel-veined and not opposite along the stem, the alternate leaves producing an interesting zig zag pattern in the stems. One way of differentiating the two climbers is in the venation of their leaves. The parallel veins of The Wombat Berry are equally distinct, whereas the Scrambling Lily has a very distinct midvein, that is raised on the upper surface. Perhaps the easiest way of distinguishing the two climbers is to look at their fruit, if there are any at the time!! Wombat Berry has an orange fruit, the Scrambling Lily having black fruit. Both these lilies are only found east of the Mitchell River and I only spotted the Scrambling Lily in the morning, along the Cliff Top Walk at the Nyerimilang Homestead.



Wombat Berry (Photo: Baiba Stevens)

Dodder laurels were also twining through low-growing bushes. Some thought they were *Cassytha pubescens*, others *Cassytha glabella*. No fruit could be found, so it was a bit difficult to identify. I think they were *Cassytha glabella*, as the stems only reached a short way up other plants, whereas *Cassytha pubescens* tends to be slightly more robust, with hairier stems. Twining Glycine *Glycine clandestina* and Southern Tick-trefoil *Desmodium gunnii* were also seen hiding in the undergrowth.

Baiba Stevens

Colquhoun Regional Park – Sunday morning

Our route followed Uncles Road from Foretech through a relatively dry forest, across the Lakes Colquhoun Road, and continued on the Old Colquhoun Road, meeting the Princes Highway near Nowa Nowa. White Stringybark and Silvertop Ash dominated much of the drier area along the roadside. We explored a number of points of interest, most of them a short distance off the main road and often in wetter gullies where we found a rich variety of vegetation and habitat for birds.

Our notes outlined the history related the construction of a tramway in the early 1900s, and in use until the mid-1930s, to move granite from the Mississippi Creek Quarry to Lakes Entrance. The granite was used to replace the original timber pylons that created the permanent entrance to the Gippsland Lakes.

At the Log Crossing picnic area, we met many of the plants we would see again later in the morning. Sheltered by tall eucalypts, a rich variety of grasses, sedges, ferns, herbs, shrubs and creepers were easily accessible along the sides of the loop track. These attracted the interest of some members, while others ventured further in search of birds. The ferns included Tree-ferns, Sickle Ferns and the delicate fronds of Maidenhair and Necklace Ferns. A careful search revealed tiny blooms of mauve Twining Glycine and Slender Mint and the dainty blue flowers of Forest Hound's-tongue.



Shrubby Platysace (Photo: Margaret Rowe)

Bright yellow flowers of Fireweed Groundsel welcomed us to the car park of the Historic Granite Quarry. Along the track were shrubs of River Lomatia, some with green fruits, and a few tiny flowers of Tick-trefoil. Established eucalypts on the quarry floor spoke of the 80 years or so since workers toiled to remove large chunks of the high quality pink granite. A sample of the beautiful polished stone had been placed there for us to admire.



Hairy Fan-flower (Photo: Margaret Rowe)

At Costicks Weir, the view from the steps was very inviting: ferns, such as Scrambling Coral-fern, and a mist of fine-leaved shrubs overhung the rock face, creek and pool. Kanooka *Tristaniopsis laurina*, with its stunning golden flowers, stood beside the pool. During our ascent

we recognised several young shrubs of Rusty Pomaderris and at the car park found small shrubs of Platysace displaying their umbels of white flowers.

We lunched beside the feet of the impressive old Stony Creek Trestle Bridge, which crossed an extensive wetland area. Swamp Paperbark *Gahnia clarkei*, Fishbone Fern and the striking Leafy Flat-sedge *Carex lucidus* could be seen without leaving the picnic area. A brief rain shower temporarily threw doubt on our plans for the afternoon.

Along the roadsides at the upper level of the bridge, the much drier habitat supported an amazingly wide range of plants, mostly of species not seen during the morning.

These included Hairy Fan-flower, Spiny Bossiaea, Cranberry Heath, Paroo Lily, Narrow-leaf Geebung, *Acacia genistifolia* and Pomax. What a treat as our final stop before travelling to Nowa Nowa!



Lunch at the bridge (Photo: Baiba Stevens)

Margaret Rowe

A plant list for the camp is available in Appendix I of the electronic version of this Naturalist.

Nowa Nowa – Sunday afternoon

After enjoying our lunch watching heaps of butterflies and leaf-curling spiders, we continued on to the boardwalk at Nowa Nowa, where Boggy Creek widens into one of the arms of Lake Tyers. There is a warm thermal spring that bubbles into the lake behind the Mingling Waters accommodation and camping ground, but we saw very few waterbirds enjoying a spa during our visit.

When we arrived at the Nowa Nowa Wetlands carpark, the advance party were hearing scarlet honeyeaters, but as far as we know, nobody managed to spot one of these tiny birds in the high canopy.



White-eared Honeyeater (Photo: David Stickney)

Easier to see was a White-bellied Sea-eagle, which posed for quite some time on a dead tree branch on the other side of the lake. Other birds seen during the afternoon were Red Wattlebird, Rose Robin, Sacred Kingfisher, Dusky Woodswallow, Leaden Flycatcher, Kookaburra, Yellow Robin and Lewin's, White-naped, White-eared and New Holland Honeyeaters.

Birdwatching seemed to be a bit out of season in early February. Some of us had been lucky earlier to see parent birds feeding young at nests and fledglings in the forest, and others called in at Lake Tyers beach on the way back to see satisfying numbers of shore and sea birds.

The botanists enjoyed easy walking and the view of the mature forest at Nowa Nowa, but found little of particular

interest in the lake shore vegetation. This was mainly mature Swamp Paperbarks with an understorey of *Phragmites*. They also found Sea Celery, New Zealand Spinach *Tetragonia tetragonioides*, Creeping Brookweed, saltbush and *Centella*, which is a little leaf growing on the ground.

Earlier, at the Stony Creek Trestle Bridge, they'd found a bit more to get excited about even though very few plants were in flower. There was an *Opercularia*, as well as Running Postman *Kennedia* sp., Apple-berry *Billardiera* sp., Cassinias, *Hardenbergia*, and something that looked like Yellow Rush-lily *Tricoryne* sp. except with white flowers.

A group of plant taxonomists were later occupied well into the night with identifying their finds, while the birdwatchers partied on, oblivious.

Jay Duncan and Joelle Champert

A bird list for the 4th and 5th of February is available in Appendix II of the electronic version of this Naturalist.

Mitchell River Silt Jetties – Monday morning

On our last day, we stopped at the Mitchell River Silt Jetties. The wind and rain did not deter a number of our members from visiting this fascinating geographic structure.

The Silt Jetties are a classic example of a finger delta. They extend 7 km into Lake King and, according to my research, are the second longest silt jetties in the world (one reference places them as the longest since the destruction of the silt jetties on the Mississippi River in the Gulf of Mexico by Hurricane Katrina in 2005). They are so special, they are listed on the Register of the National Estate.

They are a recent formation in geological time – 6,000 to 10,000 years – and are formed from the silt carried down by the Mitchell River, particularly during floods, when the sediment deposition occurs faster than the tidal currents can remove it. Vegetation such as reeds protect them from wind and wave action.

Much of the Silt Jetties are privately owned, so the southern jetty has several houses, but there are some patches of native vegetation. It was a surprise to see a population of Eastern Grey Kangaroos in one of them.

The birdlife consisted of waterbirds such as Black Swans and Eurasian Coots in Lake King. Those of our group that remained were treated to a majestic, low fly-by of a White-breasted Sea-eagle. The bird still had a patchy, buff-white head and body so it would have been a second or third year immature.

There were a number of Crested Terns and Silver Gulls, and both Little Pied and Little Black Cormorants, roosting on the tip of the northern jetty, which appeared to be more heavily vegetated. The birds were active and we spent much of our time observing the terns and cormorants diving for fish. The terns would plunge-dive from a fair height and the cormorants would surface-dive.

It was a fitting end to a very successful camp and our thanks go to Phil and Wendy for introducing us to this remarkable landscape.

David Stickney

Penguins at Sea

An oceanographer at Phillip Island Nature Parks, Andre Chiaradia has been studying aspects of the ecology of the Little Penguin for 22 years. He spoke about some of his findings at our February meeting.

Penguins spend 80% of their time at sea, coming ashore to breed and moult. They evolved from terrestrial birds, slowly making the transition to feeding at sea. Among the mammals that have moved into the sea, seals are similar as they also feed at sea but breed ashore while dolphins are able to breed at sea.

Worldwide, penguins are facing serious problems due to biodiversity loss, oil spills, penguin by-catch, overfishing and global warming. Of the 17 species, most are declining, some are stable, and a couple living in Antarctica – Gentoo and Adélie Penguins – are increasing.



Little Penguin on Phillip Island (Photo: David Stickney)

Effects of global warming on penguins have been detected. Globally, most of the excess heat is trapped in the ocean. Ocean currents move around the planet creating 'hot spots' where the temperature has already risen by over 2 degrees. This affects the penguins by affecting their prey. Studies of the South African penguins showed that as coastal waters warmed, prey have moved further from the coast and penguins have to travel further, and for longer, to find food. Chicks, waiting in burrows for parents to return with food, die of starvation. The population of South African penguins has declined by 90%. Steps are now underway to raise deserted chicks.

Andre showed a map of Australia and New Zealand indicating the amount of increase in surface water temperature over the last 30 years. He superimposed circles showing colonies of Little Penguins. After contacting people working with these colonies, he found that in places where the temperature increases are largest, foraging success is decreasing and populations of Little Penguins are decreasing. In places where temperature has not yet increased, such as in Bass Strait, colonies are doing well at present. This is not what Andre had initially expected.

Penguins are stimulated to prepare to breed when they sense that the temperature of the ocean is on the increase. This can be in August or as late as November. The best years for 'breeding success' occur when, by the time eggs are laid and hatched, the increasing temperature of the ocean has resulted in a peak of marine productivity. This provides a boost in the food supply.

Penguins are not alone in the ocean; they are part of a complex ecosystem. If we are to protect them, we need to understand their way of life and also the complex system in which they live. What do penguins eat and what competition is there for the food? At what time of year are particular areas of the ocean important for penguins?

Andre outlined a number of methods used to gather data. Most of the 6000 penguins in the Penguin Parade are micro-chipped. They are weighed each time they walk to and from the ocean across the 'PenguinLink'. DNA analysis of their scats indicates the proportions of different prey they have eaten. Some penguins carry loggers ('penguin Fitbits') that record activity at sea such as the number of dives and distance travelled. While at sea, penguins spend 50% of their time underwater, chasing mobile prey such as small fish. A penguin makes over 2000 two-minute dives per day, to a depth of 70 metres. It seems that they travel in groups and communicate with each other. They expend a lot of energy in hunting, and dives are not always successful. A penguin foraging for chicks travels about 30 km in a straight line each day. When taking the distance of the dives into account, they travel up to 300 km in a day. They bring about 200 grams of food per day to the chicks. Penguins eat squid, krill, sea horses, sardines, young barracouta and jellyfish. There is competition for these resources. In Bass Strait, penguins are top predators, but a very small player in the ecosystem. To save the penguins, we must save the fish. Bass Strait supports fishing, fish farms, oil and gas developments, etc. In order to protect the penguins and the resources they need for survival, we need really strong arguments based on knowledge. We need to map which areas are hotspots for penguins when feeding. We need to know at which times of year these areas are most important. We need to understand the system well enough to be able to make predictions.

For example, if we cut the population of sardines and anchovies by half, what effect would it have on penguins? We need a model that can predict this. We will then be in a position to negotiate for their protection. The Penguin Parade is an important tourist attraction that brings \$200m to Victoria each year.

Andre's responses to questions...

Predators: In Bass Strait, nothing in the ocean eats the Little Penguin. Leopard Seals, are known to eat Little Penguins, but they are rarely in the Phillip Island area. Long-nosed Fur Seals would also be a threat if they moved into Bass Strait. On Phillip Island, ravens have recently learned to work in pairs to steal penguin eggs. One goes to the front of the nest so that the penguins go to the front to protect the nest. Meanwhile the second raven digs into the back of the nest and steals the eggs. Studies are underway seeking the best way to prevent this.

Catastrophic moulting: After the chicks leave, the adults replace all their feathers at once. They stay ashore for 17 days while this process is completed during February or March.

Margaret Rowe

REPORT ON BUSINESS MEETING 19.06.2017

Finance

Cash Management Trading Account: \$5,431.31 Term Deposit: \$16,847.05

Business Arising, Correspondence & General Business

- Club spring camp at Chiltern 29 Sept – 2 Oct: A reminder that participants must book their own accommodation.
- SEANA Spring camp at the Little Desert will be held 13-15 October 2017
- ANN Get-together 2018 will be held Sat 29 Sept – Mon 8 Oct 2018 at Halls Gap in the Grampians. Expressions of interest are invited by 31 July 2017.
- Ken Harris was interviewed about local wildlife by ABC Gippsland radio 100.7 FM, broadcast between 6.30-7.00 am each morning from Monday 19 June to Friday 23 June 2017.
- 'Nature of Latrobe' booklet: awaiting counts from people with booklets in their possession to learn how many copies remain.
- Dave Stickney will follow up on Sean Smith's offer of assisting with the digitisation of plant lists from Bon and Ollie Thompson and the LVFNC.
- Ideas are sought from club members regarding conservation projects that we should support using some of our funds.

Conservation matters

- Tyers Rd tree removal: VicRoads advised they have pegged out areas from which vegetation will be removed. Irene advised that she has been doing field surveys of the pegged area and found it contains 10 large (>1m diameter) and 10 juvenile Strzelecki Gum, plus about 80 other trees of various species such as wattles.
- Mt Worth State Park: The value of the property will be determined before a decision is made.
- Cores and Links: Ryan Incoll from DELWP advised that handback will commence in the next few months and that the land will likely be categorised as Special Protection Zone.

Guest speaker for August

Phoebe Burns

Phoebe is an ecologist specialising in native Australian rodents. She completed her Masters degree on the fire ecology of the endangered Smoky Mouse, and will speak about her current PhD study testing the response of New Holland Mouse populations to planned burns at Providence Ponds and the Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park.



Guest speaker for September

Linda Rogan

Linda is a member of the Entomological Society of Victoria with a special interest in native bees. She has travelled extensively in Australia, photographing and documenting the life cycles of many species, with a focus on their ecological roles as pollinators and the plants they visit. She has recorded 13 species in her own native garden.



Latrobe Valley Naturalist is the official publication of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalist Club Inc. The Club subscription includes the "Naturalist".

Brief contributions and short articles on any aspect of natural history are invited from members of all clubs. Articles, including those covering Club speakers and excursions, would typically be around one A4 side in length, should not exceed 1,000 words, and may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. Photos should be sent as an attachment and be a maximum of 1 megabyte in size.

Responsibility for the accuracy of information and opinions expressed in this magazine rests with the author of the article.

Contributions should
be addressed to:

Ms Tamara Leitch
The Editor
LVFNC Inc.
PO Box 839
TRARALGON VIC 3844

Phone: 0438 372 186

Email: tleitch@wideband.net.au

Deadline for articles to be considered for inclusion in the next issue (Sept/Oct): 4 Sept 2017

Latrobe Valley Field Naturalist Club Incorporation No. A0005323T
ISSN 1030-5084 ABN 86 752 280 972

The Naturalist is generously printed by the office of Russell Northe MLA, Member for Morwell

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I – Plant list for Club Summer Camp at Lakes Entrance, 4-6 February 2017 (M. Rowe)

FERNS

Adiantaceae	Adiantum aethiopicum	Maidenhair Fern
Adiantaceae	Pellaea falcata	Sickle Fern
Aspleniaceae	Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace Fern
Blechnaceae	Blechnum neohollandicum	Prickly Rasp-fern
Blechnaceae	Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern
Cyatheaceae	Cyathea australis	Rough Treefern
Dennstaedtiaceae	Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken
Dicksoniaceae	Calochlaena dubia	Common Ground-fern
Dicksoniaceae	Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern
Dryopteridaceae	Polystichum proliferum	Mother Shield-fern
Gleicheniaceae	Gleichenia microphylla	Scrambling Coral-fern
Lindsaeaceae	Lindsaea linearis	Screw Fern
Polypodiaceae	Microsorium scandens	Fragrant Fern
Pteridaceae	Pteris tremula	Tender Brake
Pteridaceae	Pteris umbrosa	Jungle Brake

MONOCOTYLEDONS

Cyperaceae	Carex appressa	Tall Sedge
Cyperaceae	Cyperus lucidus	Leafy Flat-sedge
Cyperaceae	Eleocharis sphacelata	Tall Spike-rush
Cyperaceae	Ficinia nodosa	Knobby Club-sedge
Cyperaceae	Gahnia clarkei	Tall Saw-sedge
Cyperaceae	Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge
Cyperaceae	Lepidosperma concavum	Hill Saw-sedge
Cyperaceae	Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge
Cyperaceae	Lepidosperma laterale	Variable Sword-sedge
Juncaceae	Juncus pallidus	Pale Rush
Juncaginaceae	Triglochin procerum	Water Ribbons
Liliaceae	Burchardia umbellata	Milkmaids
Liliaceae	Dianella caerulea	Paroo Lily
Liliaceae	Dianella revoluta	Black-anther Flax-lily
Liliaceae	Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily
Liliaceae	Stypandra glauca	Nodding Blue-lily
Liliaceae	Tricoryne elatior	Yellow Rush Lily
Orchidaceae	Dipodium punctatum	Hyacinth Orchid
Orchidaceae	Thelymitra sp.	Sun-orchid
Poaceae	Austrodanthonia sp.	Wallaby-grass
Poaceae	Distichlis distichophylla	Australian Salt-grass
Poaceae	Echinopogon ovatus	Hedgehog Grass
Poaceae	Microlaena stipoides	Weeping Grass
Poaceae	Phragmites australis	Common Reed
Poaceae	Poa labillardieri	Common Tussock-grass
Poaceae	Spinifex sericeus	Sand Spinifex
Poaceae	Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass
Poaceae	Themeda triandra	Kangaroo Grass
Smilacaceae	Eustrephus latifolius	Wombat Berry
Smilacaceae	Smilax australis	Lawyer Vine
Xanthorrhoeaceae	Lomandra longifolia subsp. longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush

Xanthorrhoeaceae

Xanthorrhoea minor

Small Grass-tree

DICOTYLEDONS

Aizoaceae

Carpobrotus rossii

Karkalla

Aizoaceae

Tetragonia tetragonioides

New Zealand Spinach

Apiaceae

Apium prostratum

Sea Celery

Apiaceae

Centella cordifolia

Centella

Apiaceae

Hydrocotyle hirta

Hairy Pennywort

Apiaceae

Platysace lanceolata

Shrubby Platysace

Apocyanaceae

Alyxia buxifolia

Sea Box

Apocynaceae

Parsonsia brownii

Twining Silk-pod

Asclepiaceae

Marsdenia rostrata

Common Milk-vine

Asclepiaceae

Tylophora barbata

Bearded Tylophora

Asteraceae

Bedfordia arborescens

Blanket-leaf

Asteraceae

Brachyscome multifida

Cut-leaf Daisy

Asteraceae

Xerochrysum bracteatum

Golden Everlasting

Asteraceae

Cassinia aculeata

Common Cassinia

Asteraceae

Cassinia longifolia

Shiny Cassinia

Asteraceae

Euchiton gymnocephalus

Creeping Cudweed

Asteraceae

Euchiton sphaericus

Annual Cudweed

Asteraceae

Helichrysum leucopsidium

Satin Everlasting

Asteraceae

Hypochaeris radicata*

Cat's-ear

Asteraceae

Lagenophora gracilis

Slender Lagenifera

Asteraceae

Lagenophora stipitata

Common Lagenifera

Asteraceae

Olearia argophylla

Musk Daisy-bush

Asteraceae

Olearia lirata

Snow Daisy-bush

Asteraceae

Olearia viscosa

Viscid Daisy-bush

Asteraceae

Ozothamnus adnatus

Everlasting

Asteraceae

Ozothamnus argophyllus

Spicy Everlasting

Asteraceae

Ozothamnus ferrugineus

Tree Everlasting

Asteraceae

Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum*

Jersey Cudweed

Asteraceae

Senecio glomeratus

Annual Fireweed

Asteraceae

Senecio linearifolius

Fireweed

Asteraceae

Senecio minimus

Shrubby Fireweed

Asteraceae

Senecio tenuiflorus

Narrow Groundsel

Asteraceae

Sigesbeckia orientalis

Indian Weed

Bignoniaceae

Pandorea pandorana

Wonga Wine

Boraginaceae

Austrocynoglossum latifolium

Forest Hound's-tongue

Campanulaceae

Lobelia anceps

Angled Lobelia

Campanulaceae

Wahlenbergia gracilis

Sprawling Bluebell

Caprifoliaceae

Sambucus gaudichaudiana

White Elder-berry

Caryophyllaceae

Stellaria flaccida

Forest Starwort

Caryophyllaceae

Stellaria pungens

Prickly Starwort

Casuarinaceae

Allocasuarina littoralis

Black She-oak

Chenopodiaceae

Chenopodium album*

Fat Hen

Chenopodiaceae

Einadia hastata

Saloop Saltbush

Chenopodiaceae

Einadia nutans

Nodding Saltbush

Chenopodiaceae

Rhagodia candolleana

Seaberry Saltbush

Clusiaceae

Hypericum gramineum

Little St. John's Wort

Convolvulaceae

Dichondra repens

Kidney-weed

Dilleniaceae

Hibbertia aspera

Rough Guinea-flower

Elaeocarpaceae

Elaeocarpus reticulatus

Blueberry Ash

Epacridaceae

Acrotriche serrulata

Honey Pots

Epacridaceae

Astroloma humifusum

Cranberry Heath

Epacridaceae	Epacris impressa	Common Heath
Epacridaceae	Leucopogon parviflorus	Coast Beard-heath
Euphorbiaceae	Amperea xiphoclada	Broom spurge
Euphorbiaceae	Beyeria lasiocarpa	Wallaby-bush
Euphorbiaceae	Phyllanthus gunnii	Shrubby Spurge
Euphorbiaceae	Phyllanthus hirtellus	Thyme Spurge
Euphorbiaceae	Poranthera microphylla	Small Poranthera
Fabaceae	Acacia caerulescens	Buchan Blue Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia dealbata	Silver Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia genistifolia	Spreading Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia implexa	Lightwood
Fabaceae	Acacia longifolia	Sallow Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia longifolia var. sophorae	Coast Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia mearnsii	Black Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood
Fabaceae	Acacia suaveolens	Sweet Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia terminalis	Sunshine Wattle
Fabaceae	Acacia verniciflua	Varnish Wattle
Fabaceae	Aotus ericoides	Common Aotus
Fabaceae	Bossiaea obcordata	Spiny Bossiaea
Fabaceae	Desmodium gunnii	Southern Tick-trefoil
Fabaceae	Dillwynia glaberrima	Smooth Parrot-pea
Fabaceae	Glycine clandestina	Twining Glycine
Fabaceae	Hardenbergia violacea	Purple Coral-pea
Fabaceae	Indigofera australis	Austral Indigo
Fabaceae	Kennedia prostrata	Running Postman
Fabaceae	Pultenaea scabra	Rough Bush-pea
Gentianaceae	Centaurium erythraea*	Common Centaury
Geraniaceae	Geranium sp.	Geranium
Goodeniaceae	Goodenia humilis	Swamp Goodenia
Goodeniaceae	Goodenia ovata	Hop Goodenia
Goodeniaceae	Scaevola ramosissima	Hairy Fan-flower
Haloragaceae	Gonocarpus teucrioides	Germander Raspwort
Haloragaceae	Myriophyllum simulans	Amphibious Water-milfoil
Lamiaceae	Mentha diemenica	Slender Mint
Lamiaceae	Plectranthus parviflorus	Cockspur Flower
Lamiaceae	Prostanthera rotundifolia	Round-leaf Mintbush
Lamiaceae	Prunella vulgaris*	Self-heal
Lauraceae	Cassytha glabella	Slender Dodder-laurel
Lauraceae	Cassytha pubescens	Downy Dodder-laurel
Loranthaceae	Amyema pendula	Drooping Mistletoe
Malvaceae	Gynatrix pulchella	Hemp-bush
Malvaceae	Howittia trilocularis	Blue Howittia
Myoporaceae	Myoporum insulare	Common Boobialla
Myrsinaceae	Myrsine howittiana	Muttonwood
Myrtaceae	Acmena smithii	Lilly-pilly
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus baueriana	Green Box
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Mountain Grey-gum
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus globoides	White Stringybark
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus globulus	Blue Gum
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus melliodora	Yellow Box
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	Red Box

Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus sieberi	Silver-top
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus tricarpa	Ironbark
	Eucalyptus viminalis subsp. viminalis	
Myrtaceae		Manna Gum
Myrtaceae	Kunzea ericoides subsp. agg.	Burgan
Myrtaceae	Leptospermum laevigatum	Coast Tea-tree
Myrtaceae	Melaleuca ericifolia	Swamp Paperbark
Myrtaceae	Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark
Myrtaceae	Tristaniopsis laurina	Kanooka
Oleaceae	Notelaea venosum	Large Mock-olive
Onagraceae	Epilobium billardierianum	Robust Willow-herb
Onagraceae	Ludwigia peploides	Water Primrose
Oxalidaceae	Oxalis exilis	Shady Wood-sorrel
Pittosporaceae	Billardiera scandens	Climbing Apple-berry
Pittosporaceae	Bursaria spinosa	Sweet Bursaria
	Pittosporum undulatum var. emmettii	Sweet Pittosporum X Banyalla
Pittosporaceae		
Plantaginaceae	Plantago debilis	Shade Plantain
Polygonaceae	Persicaria decipiens	Slender Knotweed
Polygonaceae	Rumex sp*	Dock
Primulaceae	Samolus repens	Creeping Brookweed
Proteaceae	Banksia integrifolia	Coast Banksia
Proteaceae	Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia
Proteaceae	Banksia serrata	Saw Banksia
	Hakea decurrens subsp. physocarpa	
Proteaceae		Silky Hakea
Proteaceae	Lomatia myricoides	River Lomatia
Proteaceae	Persoonia linearis	Narrow-leaf Geebung
Ranunculaceae	Clematis aristata	Australian Clematis
Ranunculaceae	Clematis glycinoides	Forest Clematis
Rhamnaceae	Pomaderris aspera	Hazel Pomaderris
Rhamnaceae	Pomaderris ferruginea	Rusty Pomaderris
Rosaceae	Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee Burr
Rosaceae	Rubus parvifolius	Small-leaf Bramble
Rosaceae	Rubus sp*	Blackberry
Rubiaceae	Coprosma quadrifida	Prickly Currant-bush
Rubiaceae	Galium sp.	Bedstraw
Rubiaceae	Gynochthodes jasminoides	Jasmine Morinda
Rubiaceae	Opercularia aspera	Coarse Stinkweed
Rubiaceae	Opercularia hispida	Hairy Stinkweed
Rubiaceae	Opercularia varia	Variable Stinkweed
Rubiaceae	Pomax umbellata	Pomax
Rutaceae	Correa alba	White Correa
Rutaceae	Correa reflexa	Common Correa
Rutaceae	Crowea exalata	Small Crowea
Rutaceae	Zieria smithii	Sandfly Zieria
Santalaceae	Exocarpos cupressiformis	Cherry Ballart
Sapindaceae	Dodonaea triquetra	Large-leaf Hop-bush
Scrophulariaceae	Mazus pumilo	Swamp Mazus
Scrophulariaceae	Veronica calycina	Hairy Speedwell
Scrophulariaceae	Veronica plebeia	Eastern Speedwell
Solanaceae	Solanum aviculare	Kangaroo Apple
Solanaceae	Solanum prinophyllum	Forest Nightshade
Sterculiaceae	Brachychiton populneus	Kurrajong
Sterculiaceae	Lasiopetalum macrophyllum	Shrubby Velvet-bush

Thymeliaceae	Pimelea axiflora	Bootlace Bush
Thymeliaceae	Pimelea humilis	Common Rice-flower
Urticaceae	Urtica incisa	Scrub Nettle
Violaceae	Melicytus dentatus	Tree Violet
Violaceae	Viola hederacea	Ivy-leaf Violet
Violaceae	Viola sieberiana	Tiny Violet

*Introduced species

APPENDIX II – Bird list for Club Summer Camp at Lakes Entrance, 4th - 5th February 2017 (D. Mules)

Australian King-parrot	Eurasian Coot	Little Wattlebird	Striated Thornbill
Australian Pelican	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Magpie-lark	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Azure Kingfisher	Galah	Masked Lapwing	Superb Fairy-wren
Bell Miner	Golden Whistler	New Holland Honeyeater	Swamp Harrier
Black-faced Monarch	Great Cormorant	Pacific Black Duck	Varied Sittella
Brown Gerygone	Grey Butcherbird	Pacific Gull	Welcome Swallow
Brown Thornbill	Grey Fantail	Rainbow Lorikeet	White-bellied Sea-eagle
Chestnut Teal	House Sparrow	Red Wattlebird	White-browed Scrubwren
Common Blackbird	Laughing Kookaburra	Rose Robin	White-faced Heron
Crimson Rosella	Leaden Flycatcher	Rufous Fantail	Yellow-faced Honeyeater
Dusky Woodswallow	Little Black Cormorant	Sacred Kingfisher	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater
Eastern Spinebill	Little Corella	Shining Bronze-cuckoo	
Eastern Yellow Robin	Little Pied Cormorant	Silver Gull	